

Message Text

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53

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 CEQ-02 COA-02

COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEAE-00

FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 SWF-02 AGR-20 LAB-06 OIC-04

SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-03 CEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11

FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 DRC-01 /257 W

----- 054934

R 131347Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5263

UNCLAS CARACAS 7709

FROM US DEL LOS DR. D.M. LEIPZIGER AID/LOS

DEPT TO DR. JAMES L. MUDGE AID/PPC/PDA/TP

INFO: PPC/IA C. GULICK

EB/ORF/ICD 3527 N. HERRINGER

PPC/PDA C. NICHALOPOULOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: UNCTAD--FOURTEENTH SESSION OF TRADE AND
DEVELOPMENT BOARD (AUGUST 20, 1974 GENEVA)
DISCUSSION OF LOS

REF: TD/B/483 (23 APRIL 1974)

TD/B/483/ADD. 1 (23 APRIL 1974)

1. THESE TWO DOCUMENTS TO BE DISCUSSED BY

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TDB AUGUST 20 WITH DR. LAUFER REPRESENTING AID CONTAIN

FUNDAMENTAL ERRORS. LAUFER WISHED COMMENTS CABLED TO HIM. PLEASE TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION. MY COMMENTS FOLLOW.

2. PRIMARY DOCUMENT DETAILS EFFECTS OF SEABED MINING ON LDC MANGANESE PRODUCERS. IT IS BASED ON ECONOMETRIC MODEL (ADDENDUM ONE). TD/B/483 ERRONEOUSLY ASSUMES THAT ALL NODULE PRODUCERS WILL EXTRACT MANGANESE. THIS SEVERELY OVERSTATES POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTION OF SEABED MANGANESE FOR LAND-BASED MANGANESE SOURCES. IN ADDITION, IT ARGUES THAT MANGANESE DEMAND IS TOTALLY INELASTIC, THUS LAND SUPPLY INCREASE FORECASTED FOR 4.2 PERCENT PER ANNUM AND DEMAND INCREASE FORECASTED FOR 3.1 PERCENT WILL IN ABSENCE OF SEABED MINING DEPRESS PRICES.

3. ASSUMPTION OF INELASTIC DEMAND AND TOTAL QUANTITATIVE UNDERPINNING FOR TDB 483 RELIES ON MODEL. MODEL'S SPECIFICATION IS UNSOPHISTICATED AND INACCURATE. TIME IS EXPLICITLY ENTERED AS THE SOLE INDEPENDENT VARIABLE EXPLAINING LDC CONSUMPTION DEMAND OF MN WHILE IT IS TOTALLY EXCLUDED FROM DC CONSUMPTION EQUATION. DW IS ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY MISSING. PRODUCTION EQUATION SUFFERS FROM (A) IDENTIFICATION PROBLEM; (B) SIMULTANEITY BIAS; AND (C) MULTICOLLINEARITY OF REGRESSING VARIABLE ON ITSELF. THE PRICE EQUATION SHOULD BE A REDUCED FORM ESTIMATION IN A PROPERLY IDENTIFIED SIMULTANEOUS SYSTEM.

4. SUGGEST THAT ALL RESULTS BASED ON THIS MODE BE DISCOUNTED.
STEVENSON

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